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And the walls came tumbling down

Minden Hills demolished the Gelert hall the morning of Dec. 1. The building, originally a schoolhouse and later used as an office building and community centre, has been closed to the public since early 2012 due to its condition. See more on page 5. CHAD INGRAM Staff

Success with turtle mortality project

by CHAD INGRAM
Times Staff

A project aimed at reducing the number of turtle deaths by car is yielding some positive results.

Sheila Ziman and Paul Heaven of the Haliburton Highlands Land Trust visited Minden Hills councillors during their Nov. 26 meeting to talk about the trust's turtle road mortality project.

This summer marked the second year for project, which

diverts turtles from roadways using a specially designed system.

Seven of eight turtle species in Ontario are considered at risk.

"Their young don't have a very good survival rate," Ziman told councillors. "Healthy populations rely on low infant mortality. Roads are a primary threat to turtles."

The land trust used plastic tubing, cut vertically and supported with metal rods, to create barrier walls at its test site along County Road 1 near Gelert.

see LAND TRUST page 5

Residents protest salvage yard proposal

by CHAD INGRAM
Times Staff

Minden Hills councillors were met with a throng of protesters as they entered the township building for their Nov. 26 meeting

Hunter Creek Estates residents are unhappy about an application for a salvage yard south of Minden, on a property that abuts the housing development.

Zoned part rural and part extractive industrial, the property, a former quarry, requires a site-specific zoning amendment for the operation of a salvage yard.

A number of concerns, many environmental, were voiced at a Nov. 12 public meeting on the application and were reiterated by Don Drouillard of the Gull Lake Cottagers Association at last week's meeting.

"Water quality is the main concern of all the people on the lake," Drouillard told councillors. "I don't mean to be disrespectful to the applicant at all and I wish him luck in another location. A lot of mistakes have been made in the past. Mistakes have been made with septic tanks. Mistakes have been made with salvage yards. Why would you want to take a chance of poisoning the well? We think this is too big of a risk to even entertain the thought. Please look for a better location."

Applicants Steve and Michelle Beaver also made a presentation to council last Thursday.

"We attended the public meeting on Nov. 12 and listened to the concerns expressed at that meeting," Michelle told councillors.

She explained the business would operate from 7 a.m. until 5 p.m. and that an excavator and loader would be used. She pointed out this machinery is quieter than a crusher and other equipment that is permitted use under the property's current zoning.

A number of properties in the area are zoned for industrial use.

"Everything else is zoned industrial," Michelle said, pointing to a fuel company, woodworking business and MTO and Minden Hills work yards located along Highway 35.

"Highway access is gated, fenced and well-treed."

see APPLICANTS page 4



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Shindig shenanigans raise funds

Above, musician Chad Ingram, who was accompanied by Tim Tofflemire on percussion, sings at the Highlands Christmas Shindig on Saturday at the Northern Lights Performing Arts Pavilion in Haliburton. The sold out variety entertainment show raised a record \$18,152 for Fuel for Warmth, a charitable organization that helps provide emergency assistance to those who are unable to afford to heat their homes. Last year the event raised a little more than \$4,000./DARREN LUM Staff



The Highlands Christmas Shindig's host Dame Beatrice, as played by Mike Jaycock, laughs with the audience at the sold out entertainment variety show on Saturday at the Northern Lights Performing Arts Pavilion in Haliburton. Jaycock and Lorraine McNeil co-produced the show.



Entertainer Brigitte Gall delivered a stand-up comedy performance at the Highlands Christmas Shindig on Saturday at the Northern Lights Performing Arts Pavilion in Haliburton.

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Beech bark disease poses public safety risk

by **CHAD INGRAM**
Times Staff

Not only is beech bark disease plaguing Haliburton County, but decaying beech trees can be a risk to public safety.

Ernie Demuth of the Bancroft Minden Forest Company made a presentation to county councillors at their Nov. 25 meeting.

The private company, owned by 26 stakeholders including mostly lumber businesses, is responsible for forestry on some 250,000 hectares of Crown land in the region.

Demuth said there seems to be a lot more public knowledge about the emerald ash borer – an invasive insect species destroying ash trees in the province but, as of yet, not in Haliburton County – even though beech bark disease is a much more imminent threat, one that has been destroying beech trees in the community for years.

“Beech bark disease trumps [emerald ash borer],” Demuth said. “It’s a very serious concern right now.”

Coming to North America in wood from Europe in the 1880s, beech bark disease landed on the east coast, sweeping its way down through the American eastern seaboard and then back up across the border.

Forests in states such as New Hampshire are “aftermath forests,” all of their beech trees dead.

The disease is working its way north through Ontario and Demuth said within the next decade will have destroyed basically all of the beech trees in the county.

Beech bark disease can be difficult to detect, trees appearing healthy on the outside, but rotting from the inside out.

Demuth said all it takes is for a diseased tree to be nudged by the company’s machinery and it will collapse into large pieces.

He said forest floors in the county are littered with pieces of beech.

Diseased trees are also prone to “beech snap,” where the trunk will suddenly break, the top portion of the tree falling to the ground.

“It’s become a huge safety concern,” Demuth said, adding trees have been falling into campsites at parks.

Beech trees are ubiquitous in Haliburton County, in some places comprising as much as 70 per cent of the understorey, or lower level of a forest’s canopy.

Other tree species will move in to take the place of the dying beech trees, but this process can be inhibited by the growth of what Demuth called beech thickets.

Beech trees regenerate mainly through root spreading. And

while beech bark disease is spelling the end of large beech trees in the area, they will grow in small, gnarled thickets. The thickets prevent other seedlings from taking root. No maple trees, for example, can grow underneath.

Demuth has seen areas where “they have these wastelands of beech thickets.”

So the Bancroft Minden Forestry Company has been trying to do something about the problem. Along with taking down diseased beech trees, the company is trying to prevent beech thickets from forming in these areas, done by almost scraping the forest floor with a feller-buncher.

“You’re going to get a lot of public outcry,” Demuth said. “What are you doing? You’re destroying the forest!”

He stressed that what may look like a destructive act is actually being done for the longterm health of area forests.

There will be other implications from the death of the county’s beech trees.

“Unfortunately, the impact for wildlife is going to be huge,” Demuth said.

For example, beech nuts are a staple of the diet of black bears.

County Warden and Dysart et al Reeve Murray Fearrey suggested the county host open houses to educate the public about beech bark disease.

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INFORMATION PAGE

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After hours emergency number 1-866-856-3247

Hours of Operation:

Monday December 21st to Wednesday December 23rd 8:30 am – 4:30 pm
Thursday December 24th: 8:30 am – 11:30 am

Please note the office is closed: Friday December 25, 2015 to Sunday, January 3rd, 2016

Enjoy A safe & festive Holiday season!

MEETINGS & EVENTS

Dec 10

9:00 am, COTW/Regular Council meeting, Minden Council Chambers

For more information, please contact Elisha Weiss at 705-286-2298 or eweiss@mindenhills.ca

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OVERNIGHT PARKING

Reminder - Pursuant to By-Law 09-01 A By-Law to Regulate Parking, Overnight Parking on municipal roadways and parking lots, between the hours of midnight and 8:00 am, is prohibited from November 1st to April 30th of each year.

Vehicles parked in these areas that prohibit the removal of snow will be towed away and/or ticketed at the owner’s expense. For more information, please call the Roads Superintendent at 705-286-3144.

PROPERTY STANDARDS COMMITTEE MEMBER NEEDED

The Corporation of the Township of Minden Hills is seeking expressions of interest from members of the public for the Property Standards Committee, for the remaining term of the current Council. We would ask that you provide the undersigned with a Letter of Interest on or before December 10th, 2015.

If you have any questions please contact Colin McKnight at cmcknight@mindenhills.ca, by calling 705-286-1260 Ext. 210 or at our office at #7 Milne Street, Minden, Ontario.

Coin McKnight,
CBO/MLEO/Planning Supervisor.



FESTIVAL OF TREES THANK YOU!

The Township would like to extend a huge thank you to volunteer Pam Smith, FOT Coordinator, and Committee members Jaklin Johnson, Eli Welch, Pat Campbell and Joe Smith for all your hard work and effort preparing for and coordinating this year’s Festival of Trees. The Festival would not be the spectacular event it is each year without the dedication of our volunteers. Thank you!

PUBLIC NOTICE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Minden Hills proposes to consider by-laws to stop up, close, and convey those parcels of land more particularly described as follows:

1. File No. SRA-15-06
Part of the original shore road allowance along the shore of Gull River, lying in front of Lot 29, Concession 1, Geographic Township of Lutterworth, designated as Part 1, on a Plan of Survey 19R-9788, registered October 28, 2015.
2. File No. SRA-15-04
Part of the original shore road allowance along the shore of Davis Lake, lying in front of Lot 10, Concession 2, Geographic Township of Lutterworth, designated as Part 1, on a Plan of Survey 19R-9787, registered October 28, 2015.

The above noted plans of surveys are available for inspection in the Building and Planning Department located at 7 Milne Street, Minden, Ontario during regular office hours.

AND FURTHER TAKE NOTICE that the proposed By-Laws will come before the said Council for consideration at its regular meeting to be held in the Municipal Council Chambers at 7 Milne Street, Minden, Ontario, on **Thursday, December 10, 2015** at the hour of 9:00 a.m. At that time, Council will hear in person or by their counsel, solicitor, or agent, any person who claims that their land will be prejudicially affected and who applies to be heard. If deemed advisable, the proposed By-laws will be passed at its regular meeting to be held on **Thursday, December 10, 2015**.

DATED AT THE Township of Minden Hills, this 26th day of November, 2015.

Ian Clendening, MPI.
Planner

Applicants must undertake assessment

from page 1

“Based on a site visit conducted Nov. 13 the site appears to be well vegetated with mature trees around the perimeter of the site, with younger trees throughout the cleared area of the property where the extractive operation had previously taken place,” Minden Hills planner Ian Clendening wrote in a report.

The draft bylaw includes a 100-metre vegetative buffer from wetlands on the property.

In a report earlier this month, Clendening had recommended approval of the application, rezoning the rural portion of the property as hazard land and the extractive industrial portion as extractive industrial exception.

Following the environmental concerns raised at the public meeting, it was Clendening’s recommendation last week that council defer a decision on the matter until the applicants have an environmental impact assessment and noise study prepared.

Council supported that recommendation, although Councillor Pam Sayne was skeptical.

“My biggest concern is what is outside of an environmental assessment,” Sayne said, referring to longterm impacts that may be too subtle for detection. “Some of the questions are really beyond the scope of an environmental study.”

Councillor Ron Nesbitt wondered how a salvage yard in the area might impact property values.

Clendening said if the visual impact and noise issues were addressed, there’d be no reason for depreciation.



Residents of Hunter Creek Estates were outside Minden Hills council chambers on Nov. 26, protesting an application for an automotive salvage yard south of the village.

CHAD INGRAM
Staff



Hunter Creek Estates resident John McNeil, left, with Larry Murphy of Gull Lake, points to the entranceway for the proposed salvage yard that is being planned for a lot beside the Hunter Creek Estates housing development.



Hunter Creek resident Carol Bloor, voiced her concerns about the proposed salvage yard site located next to her community at a recent public meeting this past Sunday at the Minden Legion. DARREN LUM
Staff

Battle ramping up against proposed salvage yard

by DARREN LUM
Times Staff

Opposition to a proposed salvage yard south of Minden is growing.

Only days after a Minden Hills Council meeting where Hunter Creek Estates residents and members of the Gull Lake Cottage Association protested the application for a site-specific zoning amendment to permit the operation of a salvage yard, close to 60 people came together at the Minden Legion to discuss their feelings about a salvage yard and the options on how to fight against the proposal they believe will harm them in the long run.

Carol Bloor, who suffers from a variety of ailments from respiratory challenges to scoliosis, believes the salvage yard will produce harmful fumes and is a threat to her diminishing health and her community.

“Do I have to relocate or go in to a home? When I can still physically help myself. No. This means a lot to me and the fumes are the fumes that will be there regardless of what loader or what they have. We all have had experiences in wrecking yards. It is not the place for it and I ask that be considered,” she said.

She’s been a resident of Hunter Creek Estates for the past nine years and loves her community because of the care and support she has received from neighbours.

A lone voice in defence of the proposal at the meeting was Steve’s mother and a Hunter Creek Estate resident. She said at the end of the last council meeting the council’s planner Ian Clendening said a lot of the residents’ concerns were invalid.

With environmental concerns raised, Clendening’s recommendation is for council to defer a decision until the applicants have completed an environmental impact assessment and noise study. Council has supported that recommendation.

When she was asked about why this site is ideal she listed off reasons pertaining to the readiness of the site related to its terrain and it’s proximity to Hwy. 35.

Her son, she said, is in consultation with an owner of a salvage yard to set up and operate his own yard correctly. She added he has no intention of causing environmental damage to the area, as he has children and lives nearby. This was a case of a not in my backyard situation, she said.

Hunter Creek resident John McNeil, who has gone door-to-door with a petition to gain support and to raise awareness, spoke calmly at the meeting about his reasons for the opposition to the proposal.

“We’re not here to put Steve down. We’re here to ask him to move it to a different location,” he said.

The petition, he said, includes close to 200 signatures that includes residents of Moore’s Falls and Miners Bay.

The five-year resident of Hunter Creek, who also has a father that has lived in the housing development for the past 10 years, and the rest of the crowd at the meeting wanted Steve to use a site where there are not any residents or near a watershed.

“It’s your drinking water too. We’re not here to hurt you or hurt him or anybody else. We’re not. We’re here for us and for our grandkids and all of Minden,” he said.

McNeil knows the site well, living just down the road from it, and with the numerous signs of wildlife such as deer markings and prints, beaver dams and the close proximity to

Hunter Creek, he wonders how it will all be affected.

A day later Larry Murphy, a member of the Gull Lake Cottagers Association told the *Times* the fight has only begun to prevent this salvage yard from getting its approval.

“We’re going to do anything we can to prove our case. The bottom line: we wish the applicant would find another spot, a suitable spot,” he said.

Although Murphy lives close to 14 kilometres away, he is concerned with how his drinking water, which he gets from the lake, may be adversely affected contrary to the proposed safeguards outlined in the salvage yard proposal. He said the association will be on a “fact finding” effort now to prove their concerns are valid.

Beaver leases the property.

Down the road, within a kilometre of the proposed site, the owners of the property, the Archer sisters, Dorothy and Susan, don’t share the same feelings as their neighbours in Hunter Creek Estates.

“He knows what he’s doing,” Dorothy said. “I trust Steve.”

The two sisters have known Steve for 30 years and didn’t have anything bad to say about him.

“You can’t get a better neighbour than him,” she said.

Dorothy, who said the property has been in the family for three generations, starting with her granddad, recounted the many times Steve has helped them, whether it was plow her driveway or fix her mailbox.

She wasn’t fully aware of all of the detailed concerns of her neighbours, but is confident Steve will do what is right. And if the salvage yard doesn’t get approval?

“If it doesn’t go through it doesn’t go through. Nothing you can do about it,” she said.

End of an era in Gelert

Minden Hills demolished the Gelert hall along with a works shed on the same property the morning of Dec. 1. The aging building, which was constructed as a schoolhouse and also served as a Snowdon township office building and later a community centre, had been closed to the public since early 2012 due to its condition.

Asbestos had to be removed at the site before demolition. Minden Hills council has also voted to demolish the Prichard House, which has been vacant a number of years, as well as a home the township owns at 2 Prince St. in Minden. **CHAD INGRAM Staff**



Land trust looking for volunteers for turtle project

from page 1

The barriers, 500 metres in length and inserted into road shoulders, are designed to prevent turtles from crossing the roadway, diverting them instead to aquatic culvert underpasses.

"The numbers are really, really good," Heaven, a wildlife biologist, told councillors, citing a large drop in the number of turtles on the road at the site.

Observations were taken at the test site, as well as two control sites, first in 2014 and again in 2015, by volunteers and by camera.

The number of turtles on the road in the test site area dropped from 54 to 16 and once turtles entered the barrier area, they were unable to breach it.

"No turtles were able to breach our wall," Heaven said.

Species including snapping, painted and Blanding's turtles were documented using the underpass.

Monitoring for the project in 2016 begins May 1 and the land trust is looking for volunteers.

For more information on the land trust, visit www.haliburtonlandtrust.ca.



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Scrap

WHO SAYS municipal politics can't be interesting?

Minden Hills councillors were greeted by a protest as they made their way into the township building for last week's meeting.

Yes, a protest, with placards and everything. These kinds of demonstrations are not unprecedented in the county but are certainly rare.

The last picketing of a council chamber that comes to mind was a protest staged outside the Algonquin Highlands building when the council of the day wanted to build a new and expensive runway at Stanhope Airport that most township residents weren't too happy about.

That's going back seven or so years.

What brought Minden Hills residents, or more specifically, residents of Hunter Creek Estates, to the parking lot of the Minden Hills building last Thursday was an application for an automotive salvage yard on a property abutting the housing development.

Already zoned for industrial use – the property once operated as quarry – a site-specific zoning amendment is required for operation of the scrap yard.

It was a peaceful protest, by the way. The police did not have to be called. Protestors quietly took seats in the gallery following their demonstration.

Given the degree of public interest, the decision on the

application will be one of the most controversial the current council has made.

No matter the outcome, someone will be unhappy.

Representatives on both sides of the argument made presentations to council last week, each side with valid points.

The Gull Lake Cottagers Association, which opposes the project, emphasized environmental concerns, worried that fluids would make their way into a wetland on the property and eventually into the watershed.

**CHAD INGRAM**
Reporter

The applicants spoke of how a number of properties along the stretch of Highway 35 south of Minden are already occupied by industrial uses, including fuel and woodworking businesses and MTO and Minden Hills public works yards.

The property is gated, fenced and well treed, the township's planner agrees.

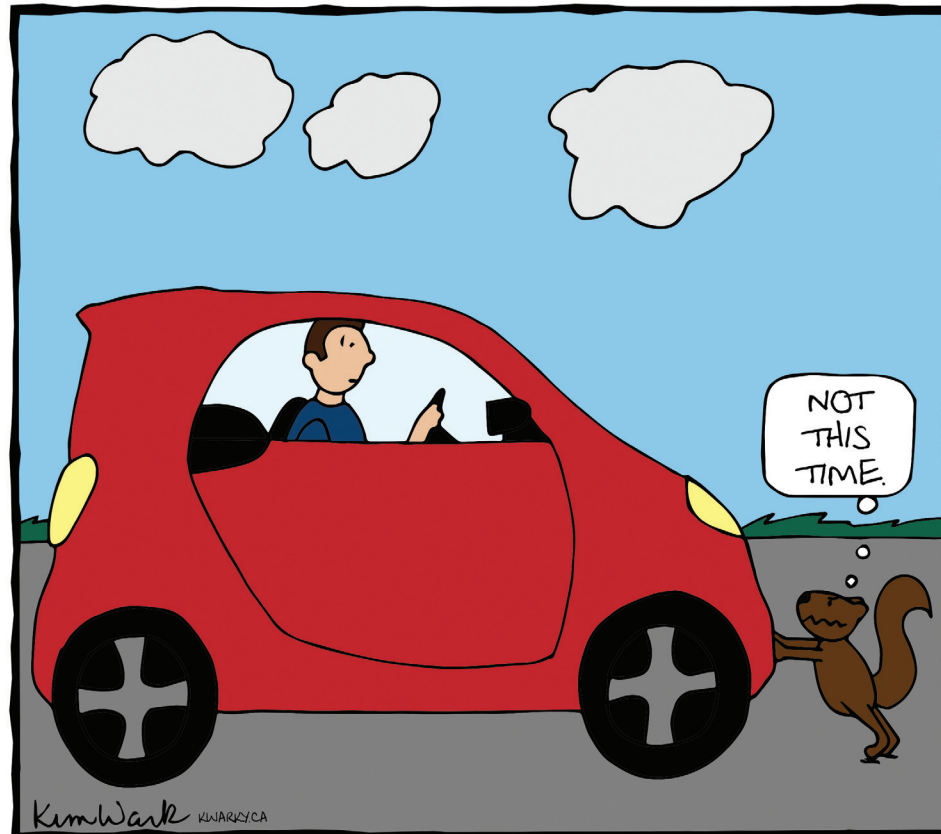
It's a lot for council to consider.

Taking a diligent road, council has asked the applicants to produce an environmental impact assessment and noise study. The results of those studies will likely dictate or at least influence what council ultimately decides, although constituents' concerns, especially in a critical volume, must always be taken into consideration.

At the end of the proverbial day, council will make a decision. One side will get its way, one side will not.

And thus turn the wheels of the municipal machine.

KWARKY



ROAD RAGE

Choosing sides

AN INTERESTING STUDY from the UK has finally confirmed something I have suspected all along. People who sleep on the left side of the bed are four per cent likelier to wake up in a good mood.I'm not about to get all personal here and divulge which side of the bed I sleep on. Let's just say that I generally wake up in a manner similar to Gene Kelly in *Singing in the Rain*. And I do this four per cent more often than my better half.

Of course, there's far more to it than that.

Another statistic from that study reveals that those who sleep on the right side of the bed are seven per cent more likely to wake up in a bad mood – and, in my experience at least, snap at you for singing and opening umbrellas inside the house at 6 in the morning.

The question not addressed in the article I read is whether or not changing sides would make any sort of difference. I suppose they already guessed those who sleep on the right hand side, being a full 5 per cent more pessimistic, would never consent to the experiment.

Being the optimist that I am, however, I'll raise the question tonight at bed time just after I ask where she hid my umbrella, galoshes and raincoat.

If your partner who sleeps on the right side of the bed doesn't consent to changing sides – and, trust me, they won't – I've got another solution that just might work.

Ask them to sleep with their head at the foot of the bed. You see, if they do this,

they will fool themselves into thinking they slept on the left side of the bed and, who knows, in a couple of days might even give your umbrella back. Or at least stop chasing you with it.

Before you do make this ask, however, you need to take care of a couple of safety considerations. First, you must ensure sure foot odour isn't a problem. By the way, suggesting foot odour might be a problem is the first step in making it one. And, trying to covertly sniff your partners feet in the middle of the night to deter-

mine this can only lead to worse disaster. Trust me.

Second, don't so much as hint at this option if one or both of you have restless leg syndrome. Also, be very suspicious if your partner suddenly develops a bad case of this it on the first night of the new arrangement.

Lastly, don't spoon. No one wants to hear about it.

Other than that, this simple remedy could solve all the issues that come from sleeping on the right side – which is apparently the wrong side – of the bed. Also, it will confuse the hell out of the cats. And that's worth something right?

The point I'm trying to make is there is a way for both people in a committed relationship to wake up on the same happy page and it just involves, literally, turning that frown upside down.

In fact, I believe this little trick could equally benefit the happy person in the relationship too, so long as she doesn't decide to put her cold feet on the back of my neck this winter.

**STEVE GALEA**
Beyond 35

IN OTHER WORDS

Columns and Letters to the Editor

Whispers of winter

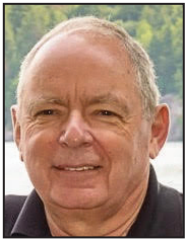
GENTLE MISTS CARESS THE LAKE like a mother's hand massaging her child's back, calming her to sleep. Sleep for the lake is delayed this year. Winter's approach, usually loud and bullying, is just a whisper so far. It might be well into this month of December, perhaps even early January, before the lake stiffens and accepts the inevitable.

This is the quietest time of year on the lake. The hunters are gone. The last motor boat appears to have been pulled ashore. It is a time for reflection. Time to review months passed and contemplate what might be ahead.

My favourite place to reflect is on the hilltop overlooking the lake. There is perspective here. What often seems so important when I am away from here, is of little importance when I am here.

The stillness in the surrounding forest makes my ears ring. The trees are grey and their limbs have that stiff, arthritic look as they stand stoically waiting for the snow that will clothe them soon. The stillness is broken occasionally by a few remaining dried oak leaves scratching against each other in an almost non-existent breeze.

High on my thought list today is the fate of the big buck whose movements I have followed for the past few years. He has posed many times for my trail cameras, almost always at night. He is a beauty; muscular and healthy, crowned with 10-point rack. I have never seen him in the flesh.



JIM POLING SR.
From Shaman's Rock

There has been little sign of him in the past month. A few tracks and a scrape but it is impossible to tell whether they were made by him. I worry that perhaps he was shot during the fall deer hunt. I hope not and soothe my concern by telling myself he got to be a 10-pointer by being cautious and cunning.

In past years he has stayed around this hill until the snow deepened, so I might see signs of him yet. I will be sad if he is gone forever, but change is a part of life that we all must face and accept.

From up here I see change as a blessing. The snow and cold that will come any day offer us time to recover from the exertions of spring, summer and fall. With it comes Christmas and New Year's and relaxed fun with family and friends.

The second part of winter, which can be so harsh, brings the excitement of planning and preparing for spring.

The winter ahead is forecast to be mild because of the return of an El Niño weather pattern created by unusual warming of the Pacific Ocean. This year the El Niño is forecast to be one of the strongest ever.

A milder winter will be appreciated by many, but hopefully it will not be so mild as to curtail our great winter recreations, such as downhill and cross-country skiing, snowshoeing and snowmobiling. And, of course, fishing through the ice.

The last powerful El Niño brought disaster to Ontario. That was the winter of 1997-98 when what has been tagged The Great Ice Storm caused massive damage to trees and electrical infrastructure, especially in Eastern Ontario. That storm caused 35 deaths and basically shut down Ottawa and Montreal, with power outages lasting days, and sometimes weeks and months.

More than 16,000 Canadian Forces troops were mobilized to help with the crisis created by the storm. It was the largest deployment of Canadian soldiers since the Korean War.

No one knows exactly what El Niño will bring us this winter. The forecasters say that if it continues to strengthen, the deepest part of winter will be mild. There are indications, however, that this strong El Niño will weaken come January and cold air could return along with plenty of lake effect snow.

If the latter occurs, we'll just put another log on the fire and consider John Steinbeck's thoughts, written in *Travels with Charley*:

"What good is the warmth of summer, without the cold of winter to give it sweetness."

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letters to the editor

Keep a part of Minden's past

To the Editor,

This is in response to Tim Pritchard's letter in the Nov. 26 edition of the *Times*. I totally agree with Tim's statements as I wrote about when this issue came up several years ago. Having grown up in Minden the Pritchards were well known and highly thought of. My feeling is this home once inhabited by a respected family should be kept as a historical site. One lovely stone house

was already demolished on Newcastle Street to make room for a condo. Part of our Minden heritage should be left. Hopefully something can be done to restore the Pritchard house.

Minden does not need all modern dwellings or become a sea of concrete for yet more parking as Tim commented.

Let's keep some of Minden's past.

Janice Carr

Salvage yard not a good idea

To The Editor,

On Thursday Nov. 26, residents from Hunter Creek Estates and Gull Lake attended the Minden Hills council meeting. The extremely large group came to protest the proposal to create a salvage yard on the adjoining property to Hunter Creek Estates.

Hunter Creek Estates is an established residential community, geared to senior living. People move to this development so they can continue to live an independent, active and healthy lifestyle as they navigate the challenges and health issues that come with the golden years.

The proposed salvage yard would not only be detrimental to senior health issues, and quality of life, but also to the environment. Hunter Creek flows through the backland of Hunter Creek Estates connecting to Gull Lake. Residents here

get their water from artesian wells at the back of the property and people on Gull Lake use the lake water. The land is very sandy and permeable on this property and where the proposed salvage yard is to be located. According to the Canadian Auto Recycler's Environmental Code (CARE), spills of hazardous liquids on permeable surfaces, would lead to contamination of ground water, wetlands, and fresh water supplies. Therefore, the proposed site is not suitable for a salvage yard.

A salvage yard deals with hazardous fluids like mercury, which can contaminate soils and water bodies, mercury vapor (1 gram of mercury vapor can contaminate 3.8 million litres of fresh water), nickel and lithium from batteries, lead acid, battery acid, freon, fluorethane, oil, anti-freeze, other lubricants and solvents on a daily

see PROPOSAL page 8




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Proposal could harm residents

basis.

At least three seniors living in Hunter Creek Estates are on oxygen, breathing machines or use puffers daily. Air quality is a huge issue for people with respiratory problems. The thought of summer dust from truck traffic, and the possibility of mercury vapor contamination along with all the other lubricants and solvent vapors is horrifying to contemplate for any human, but especially for a fragile senior.

Rain and snowfall can also affect the safe operations of a salvage yard. Heavy rain can flood areas where contaminants are stored or spilled, pressure washers can also create contaminated run off. Waste can accumulate on snow and become a problem during spring thaw and run-off. The storage of old tires presents a different

problem. A tire fire has significant impact on air, land and water quality. More disturbing, is the fact that old tire piles create an excellent breeding ground for mosquitoes that carry West Nile Virus.

So much is at stake here: wetlands, drinking water, air and land pollution and the health and safety of people who live in this retirement community. We all want quality of life for the humans, wildlife, lake life, and the flora and fauna that share this unique part of The Land Between. Let's conserve our ecosystem for now and for the generations that come after us.

Sharon Lawrence
Hunter Creek Estates,
Minden Hills

What about art murals?

To the Editor,

In light of the construction of a new Beer Store beside Foodland, I wonder if any consideration has been made about the fate of the wonderful murals which grace the exterior walls of the current Beer Store. I, for one, have been entertained

by the scenes depicted and always find a new scenario to smile about. It would be a shame to lose these after the Beer Store has been relocated.

Cath McLean
Minden

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Did you ride the magic bus with Ed?

To the Editor,

Fortunately, we may be lucky enough to have somebody special come into our lives. If you rode the big yellow bus with Ed Pritchard, you had the company of such a person twice each school day!

For more than 30 years Ed got you to and from school, safe and sound, in all kinds of weather. But it was more than that. It wasn't just the Halloween treats or the candy canes before Christmas break. It was simply Ed, or Mr. Pritchard. It was his warm greeting, his friendly goodbye, and that infectious smile. No matter what else was happening in your daily life, you could always count on Ed. For some readers, your children may have also ridden with Ed. Ed's last run on the bus was in June of 2012 when he was eighty-one years of age.

I'm writing this article because many of you may not have heard that Ed passed away on November 22nd in his eighty-fifth year.

Ed, the bus driver, was a man of many talents. He worked in construction most of his life. If you or a family member attended the University of Waterloo and lived in the Village One residence, Ed helped build that. Locally, Ed's most proud achievement in construction adorns a lovely farm acreage along the Gull River down Deep Bay Road. As a boy in the late 50's and early 60's, I remember that farm while riding down the original route starting at what is now Orde Street, while on the way to fish at North Pigeon Lake. Just imagine what that old intersection by the River Cone would be like with today's traffic! Well, when Ed and Joan moved to Minden with their family in 1974, the Deep Bay bypass had not yet been built.

What about that farm off of Murdoch Road? Well, Ed was hired to do a major renovation on the original log house which included the addition of a beautiful cedar-lined sauna. But that was nothing compared to the task of turning the old barn into a lovely multi-storey residence. Ed kept

a photo album of the work in progress. It was a major project involving structural work from the ground up. Now don't get me wrong. Ed never bragged about the project. If you knew Ed, you knew him as the quiet spoken and modest man. However, when asked, he was always willing to share his knowledge and even lend a hand. I confess that my wife and I admire Ed's work whenever we paddle past that farm.

For those of you who never rode the bus with Ed, you may have called Minden Taxi to be driven home or elsewhere by Ed or Joan. The Pritchard's owned and operated the taxi business from 1974 to 1986. Ed laughed when recalling a blizzard night some winters ago. He got a call to pick up a passenger who lived a good ways down Scotch Line Road West. Ed said he was making good progress up that first big hill out of the river valley, when the rear wheels started to give way and gravity started to take over. Somehow Ed managed to bring the taxi back down the hill backwards without going into the ditch on either side. Just another day in the 24/7 life of the Minden Taxi for Ed!

Oh, and did I forget to mention that Ed was a "dyed in the wool" fisherman? Also, Ed took up cross-country skiing which he enjoyed regularly until a few winters ago. Ed enjoyed playing his guitar and his pleasant singing voice was enjoyed in the living room, on the dock and around a camp-fire.

Ed was a kind and considerate man. His smile, laughter, and his mischievousness could light up your day. When somebody like Ed Pritchard passes away, they leave an empty place in our lives. Those of us who had the pleasure of knowing Ed are all the better for it.

My family has had the good fortune of having the Pritchards as neighbours. I considered Ed to be more than a neighbour, and more than a friend. He was my buddy, and I will miss him.

John Gibb, Minden

A steep price to pay

At a time of year when many families are gearing up for holiday feasts, some local low-income earners may find it far from festive.

Residents of Haliburton County, Northumberland County and the City of Kawartha Lakes who rely on social assistance or minimum-wage jobs often do not have enough money to afford healthy food once they pay for other necessities such as rent, utilities, heat and transportation. That conclusion comes out of the annual Nutritious Food Basket costing done in 2015 by the Haliburton, Kawartha, Pine Ridge District Health Unit. A Nutritious Food Basket consists of 67 food items that are nutritious and commonly purchased by Ontarians, but does not include other essentials such as cleaning products, diapers, toilet paper and personal care items.

In 2015, the Health Unit found the cost of a Nutritious Food Basket for a local family of four (father, mother, teenaged boy and girl between four and eight years) to be \$202.62 per week. This represents a \$12.26 per week increase in the cost of healthy eating from 2014. In fact, 2015 saw the largest year-over-year increase in the price of healthy foods for a family of four since 2011.

The situation for minimum-wage earners in particular is bleak, according to a recent report released by the Canadian Centre for Policy Alternatives (www.policyalternatives.ca). The report, entitled A Higher Standard: The Case for Holding Low-Wage Employers in Ontario to a Higher Standard, notes that minimum-wage jobs in Ontario have increased by almost 400 per cent in the last 20

years. Two-thirds of minimum-wage workers in Ontario are over 20 years of age, and most have unpredictable hours of work, the report finds. Even with full-time, year-round work, the report finds minimum wage earners in Ontario would still not earn enough to live above the poverty line.

"Unfortunately, there are many other stories like this one that we come across all the time," Azevedo Perry adds. "Better budgeting is not the answer either, especially when there is not enough money to begin with at the start of the month."

To address the problem facing low-income earners, local residents and municipal leaders are being asked to support poverty-reduction strategies in their communities that address important issues such as safe and affordable housing, public transportation, and affordable and flexible child care. People can also support their community by asking for and buying local products, especially local food. At the provincial level, people are encouraged to speak to their MPPs to raise social assistance and the minimum wage rates to reflect the true cost of living.

Employers who pay minimum wage should also be required to schedule more predictable work hours for staff and set a higher standard for paid leave, she adds. To find out more about the Nutritious Food Basket costing and the challenges facing local residents, people can call the Health Unit at 1-866-888-4577, visit the Rethink Poverty website (www.rethinkpoverty.ca), or go online to Harvest Haliburton (www.harvesthaliburton.com).

Submitted



Festival of Trees

A young attendee checks out a literary-themed Christmas tree during the Minden Hills Cultural Centre's sixth annual Festival of Trees. The event, which raffles off decorative trees and wreaths sponsored by local businesses and groups, is a fundraiser for the cultural centre. CHAD INGRAM Staff



The cultural centres' Festival of Trees takes place not just in the centre's main building, but in the historic buildings that comprise the Minden Hills Museum, such as the church.



Gabriel and Adrien Petric, along with Andrew Carmount, jazzed up some familiar Christmas carols for guests during the sixth annual Festival of Trees at the Minden Hills Cultural Centre on Nov. 21. The festival ran Nov. 20, 21, and 22.



Residents survey trees, as well as other raffle items and a candy shop, set up in the common room at the Minden Hills Cultural Centre during the annual Festival of Trees.



This tree featured a variety of red birds - including an Angry Bird, for those familiar with the video game - during the cultural centre's sixth annual Festival of Trees.



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SPECIAL FEATURE: Tips from THRIVE Your Business

For those of you who missed our November Breakfast here are a few tips we would like to share with you.

Ten Cash Flow Tips

1. Plan and monitor your cash on a regular basis.
2. Giving credit to customers should not be an automatic expectation - have an application process. Privilege vs. expectation.
3. Monitor your Accounts Receivable - start following up before their due date.
4. Negotiate terms with suppliers - the best prices and terms - before you buy.
5. Reduce the risk of fraud and make sure proper procedures are in place and are being followed by staff.
6. Have a recovery plan in place to deal with disruptions or unforeseen shutdowns to your business or key suppliers.
7. Talk to your bank about whether they have products that will reduce your transactions costs and provide you with better online tools.
8. Invest your excess cash.
9. Periodically revisit how you carry out administration operations.
10. Cut expenses and look for ways to free up cash.

Eight Accounts Receivable Tips

1. Issue invoices promptly and follow up immediately if payments are slow in materializing
2. Offer discounts to customers who pay their bills promptly.
3. Offer several different ways for the customer to pay you.
4. Track A/R to identify and avoid slow-paying customers.
5. Use a credit application.
6. Give them a credit limit
7. Stop sending product if they are late in payments.
8. Get a good accounting system which will "age" your receivables.

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CHAMBER NEWS

CALL FOR DIRECTORS

ADD YOUR VOICE & EXPERTISE TO THE HHCC BOARD

The Haliburton Highlands Chamber of Commerce (HHCC) is inviting members of the business community to consider joining its Board of Directors. Having recently completed its Strategic Plan, there are a number of positions available on the Board for civic minded members of the business community to consider adding their voice and expertise to the Board.

As the Haliburton Highlands Chamber of Commerce moves forward, the following strategic priorities will guide its efforts to serve the business community and enhance the economic vitality of the Haliburton Highlands:

1. To support business transitions within the business community;
2. To generate stronger external communications;
3. To strengthen Chamber operations – ensuring a sustainable and efficient operational environment;
4. To strengthen advocacy – voice of business;
5. To strengthen youth integration with the business community.

Working with business, government and community partners, HHCC is committed to fostering a strong and vibrant economy, and invites business members from the community to consider joining the Board to achieve these goals.

For more information on joining the board, please contact at Rosemarie Jung at (705) 457-4700 or rosemarie@haliburtonchamber.com



Invest in Local Youth - Invest, Involve, Inspire!

Did you know that we have a youth entrepreneurship program in our community? The 18-week, after-school,

Junior Achievement Company Program made its debut in the Haliburton Highlands last year for the first time in 40 years. We partnered with Peterborough Lakeland Muskoka Junior Achievement to bring this unique opportunity to our local youth and community - it was a huge success! Students established a company, sold a product and were part of a career and life changing experience that has opened many new doors for them. Not to be overlooked, is the 20% return on investment for their company's shareholders. This unique youth entrepreneurship program is all about inspiring and preparing our next generation of young entrepreneurs and employees to succeed in a global economy.

Generous corporate partners throughout our community not only provide the business mentors/advisors and the meeting space, but also the funding for this 18-week hands-on learning experience.

The program begins Nov. 23rd:

- We have 28 students registered - a sign of great things to come!
- We have 15 volunteer business mentors trained - what a team!
- We have a meeting space - thanks Dysart Library and Baked & Battered!

NOW... we need your \$\$ investment to make it all possible.

Please consider being an investor in one of the following ways:

- \$200: proud supporter (receive recognition on Chamber website)
- \$250: student sponsor (+ recognition in bi-weekly Chamber newsletters and promotions)
- \$1000+: platinum sponsor (+ platinum recognition in program promotions, and receive a marketing bundle from the Chamber of Commerce)

The Chamber of Commerce is a proud supporter of the JA Company Program and invite you to invest in this year's program and be a part of transforming today's youth into tomorrow's leaders!

For more information on this year's Company Program and to invest, please contact:

Jennifer Miles
Company Program Coordinator
jmiles@ja-plm.ca
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Poverty action plan outlines barriers to employment

by CHAD INGRAM
Times Staff

Addressing barriers to employment and continuing education – such as transportation and affordable child care and housing – could help reduce poverty in Haliburton County.

Executive director of the Kawartha Lakes Family Health Team Mike Perry and public health nurse Mary Lou Mills visited Haliburton County councillors on Nov. 25 to present an employment and education action plan, part of the poverty reduction strategy for the county and City of Kawartha Lakes.

Information for the strategy, which has been a years-long process, was collected through research as well as residents surveys.

Initially, the surveys were filled out mainly by social services workers and educators, Perry said.

“So we redid the survey because we wanted to hear from people who are experiencing poverty at the moment,” he told councillors. “No one we talked to was looking for a handout.”

What they were looking for was better access to jobs, continuing education and skills training. However, there can be barriers to accessing those opportunities, one such barrier being child care.

As Mills pointed out, in the current economy, many people are employed precariously, through contract or part-time work.

“When people are precariously employed, they tend to work varying hours,” Mills said, adding this does not coalesce well with an outdated child care system that offers 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. hours.

Other barriers include lack of affordable housing, transportation and high-speed Internet.

“High-speed Internet is again a huge asset that is needed,” Mills said, referring to one case of single mother who wanted to take some online courses but couldn’t because she couldn’t get reliable Internet.

“We’re losing all the middle income,” Mills continued, explaining there is increased demand for highly skilled people and

lower pay for those without such skills.

The percentage of Ontarians making within \$4 of minimum wage per hour has risen from 19.8 per cent in 1997 to 29.4 per cent in 2014.

Mills said that according to research, 70 per cent of all jobs in the area within the next six years will require some form of post-secondary education, meanwhile some 15 per cent of students in the area are still not graduating high school.

Perry, who was the NDP candidate for Haliburton-Kawartha Lakes-Brock in the October federal election, said that, “All candidates agreed and found that creating jobs in the area is the No. 1 priority in this riding.”

Perry stressed the importance of having a skilled work force. If an IT company announced that it wanted to set up shop in Minden, for example, would Haliburton County have the workforce to be able to accommodate that, he posed.

Among the recommendations in the plan is the development and implementation of strategies to target business and industry retention and expansion and to attract new businesses that provide stable employment and a living wage.

A living wage means one that allows a person to pay for more than just the bare necessities. For Haliburton County, a living wage is in the area of \$15 to \$16 dollars an hour.

Other recommendations of the plan are to collaborate with community stakeholders to develop a workforce development and training program based on labour force needs; improving infrastructure such as broadband, high-speed Internet and transportation; and increasing life and job skills readiness programs.

“What it needs is political will,” Perry said. “We challenge council with this agenda.”

County Warden and Dysart el al Reeve Murray Fearrey told Perry that he had the easy part of the job – creating the report – and that implementation was a lot more difficult.

Fearrey pointed to the financial stresses being put on townships by the province, such as the new OPP billing model.

RPM extends customer reach with purchase of Thompson’s Marina

by DARREN LUM
Times Staff

A September purchase of a Coboconk marina is enabling RPM (Recreation Powersports Marine) to reach more customers and ensure year round employment says its owner Alan Gordon.

Gordon, who owns RPM with wife Anne Gordon and business partner Lisa Robbins, said the purchase of Thompson’s Marina on Balsam Lake expands the RPM brand to three locations: Haliburton RPM, Wedgewood RPM in Minden and now Coboconk.

RPM, a year-round recreation powersports retailer, bought the family-run Thompson’s Marina located on Highway 35 that has served the community for 107 years.

Thompson’s was started by Eric Thompson in 1934 and was run by the family until the RPM purchase.

RPM will be able to reach close to 10,000 more customers in the Northern Kawarthas region. The marina was renamed Balsam RPM and will be a full-service year round operation.

With three marinas, Gordon said customers will be better served because of greater expertise possessed by his staff through the family network of three locations.

All three of RPM locations are ideally situated on the water which is part of the company’s business strategy. This purchase will also give its customer more choice through the offered brands.

Check with certain locations for which ones will feature more of one brand at a particular store than others.

For instance, Haliburton will feature and have products by Legend, Avalon and Arctic Cat brands in store, but it will also be able to sell Tracker and Kawasaki. The Coboconk location will feature Kawasaki and Tracker, but also be able to sell the other brands carried by RPM.

As the company website states if it is on the water, in the woods or on the snow, they will have customers covered.

See www.haliburtonrpm.com for information on all of its locations and offered products.



RPM (Recreation Powersports Marine) has expanded into Coboconk since its purchase of Thompson’s Marina in Coboconk in September. The year-round recreation powersports retailer now includes three locations: Haliburton, Minden and Coboconk. This purchase increases RPM’s customer reach to 10,000 more people and is part of an effort to ensure year-round employment said owner Alan Gordon.

Submitted by RPM

Calling all Angels

A Nativity Pageant *Plus**

A Family Tradition for Angels of All Ages

Saturday, December 5th, 2015

Two Performances: 5:00 p.m. & 7:00 p.m.

St. Paul’s Anglican Church

19 Invergordon Ave., Minden



Al Mayo, left, and Judy Flieger of the Minden Legion hand over a \$1,000 cheque from the branch to Joanne Barnes, Marilynne Lesperance and Lorne McNeil of Fuel for Warmth. The organization assists area residents having trouble heating their homes through the winter.

New sign business debuts in Minden

by ANGELICA INGRAM
Times Staff

Juston Hutchinson got his first taste for the sign business when he was just in high school.

Born and raised in the county, Hutchinson did a co-op placement at a sign company while attending Haliburton Highlands Secondary School.

That placement led to a 15-year career with a local sign business and now Hutchinson is striking out on his own.

The Minden resident recently launched Joe's Custom Signs, the business name stemming from his long-time nickname, he said.

Located at 576 Bobcaygeon Road, Joe's Custom Signs does a variety of work, from vehicle lettering, billboards, business cards, wooden signs and much more.

Currently enrolled in the Ontario Self-employment Benefits program, Hutchinson, 34, was one of the last candidates in the area to qualify for the government program, before its cancellation was announced earlier this year.

"Before that I was looking for a job because I got laid off and wasn't having any luck so I decided I would just start my own thing," he said.

Working in the field for more than a decade, Hutchinson really enjoys the creative element of the sign business.

With a shop set-up in his home, Hutchinson works with a variety of materials, including vinyl, wood, paper and more.

He is expanding into more custom projects, including personalized Christmas ornaments and snowmobile wraps and registration numbers.

"I've sold quite a few ornaments," he said.

Hutchinson also makes personalized block



Juston Hutchison holds up a sign he made himself in his home-based workshop located on Bobcaygeon Road. Owner of new business Joe's Custom Signs, Hutchinson has been in the sign business for the past 15 years. ANGELICA INGRAM Staff

letters, to spell out baby names, complete with their birthdate and birth info. These items make for popular gifts, he said.

His favourite project is vehicle lettering, due to how it enhances a simple car or truck.

Hutchinson recommends clients come in to work with him on custom projects.

Even though the entrepreneur is new to the world of self-employment, so far it is going along nicely, he said.

Business hours are 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., or by appointment.

For more information on Joe's Custom Signs call 705-455-7544 or email joes-signs@hotmail.com.

You can also find the business on Facebook at facebook.com/joescustomsigns.

Right, the showroom for Joe's Custom Signs displays a variety of items Juston Hutchinson makes, including wood signs, Christmas ornaments and snowmobile wraps and registration numbers.



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The Township of Minden Hills would like to recognize and thank all the volunteers, businesses, organizations, and the Minden Lions Club, for their participation and support in the annual Santa Claus Parade on Saturday November 21st.

None of this would be possible without all of you!

Congratulations to the following for their winning floats:

Best Commercial

Git'er dun miniatures-Cathy Fisher

Best Service Group

Minden Churches

Trophies proudly sponsored by the Minden Lions Club





Honouring service

Chris Parish, right, was honoured with a long service award by County Warden Murray Fearrey at a recent county council meeting. Parish has spend 15 years with Haliburton County Emergency Services. CHAD INGRAM Staff



Roads department employee Lorne Patterson was recognized for 25 years with the county.

U-Links to study impact of farmers' market

by CHAD INGRAM
Times Staff

The U-Links Centre for Community-Based Research, along with the Haliburton County Farmers' Market Association, are applying for funding from the Rural Ontario Institute's Measuring Rural Community Vitality Initiative.

U-Links director Emma Horrigan and association president Angel Taylor visited Haliburton County councillors during their Nov. 25 meeting.

The application required a letter of municipal support but no financial contribution from the county.

"The HCFMA represents a unique case study of how to address economic development in rural communities both at the level of production and consumption," Horrigan wrote in a correspondence to the county. "Partnering with key food stakeholders across Haliburton County, we are interested in further developing and testing a methodology that will measure the broader impact of the farmers' market on our community, including other businesses, cultural tourism, and enrichment and recognition of local culture."

Since its inception in 2009, the Haliburton County Farmers' Market has grown to include three market locations – Haliburton Village, Carnarvon and, as of this year, Minden – operating spring through fall.

Its total annual sales have grown from \$44,000 to some \$450,000 this year.

"We think the Haliburton County Farmers' Market is an excellent case study of economic development in rural communities," Taylor told councillors, adding that not only had its vendors seen growth in their sales, but some have now graduated to production of products. "We have vendors who have commenced production since the market started."

Taylor noted the market also coalesced with the culinary tourism being one of the county's three tourism pillars and the activities of the Ontario Culinary Tourism Alliance.

MERRY MINDEN

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Cheryl and Dave Bathe
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Diane and David Dollo
Mary McCrae
Lois Rigney
Sinclair Russell
Patti Walshe

Township of Minden Hills
- Community Services

Volunteers:

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Nicola Adams
Jeanne Anthon
Cheryl Bathe
Marlene Brett
Jack Brezina
Pat Brezina
Elaine Davison
Marie Gage

Gordon Graham
Eleanor Hall
Rozanne Hynard
Pat Johnson
Lynda Litwin
Betty Mark
Mary McCrae
Wendy Minto
Gerda Neubacher

Bob Penfold
Joanna Penfold
Lois Rigney
Sinclair Russell
Pam Sayne
Robbie Stevenson
Vickie Tranter
Patti Walshe
Patti Weiss

Minden Hills Volunteer Fire Department
Christmas Food & Toy Drop Off

The Township of Minden Hills
is asking for donations
in support of the
Annual Minden Community
Christmas Basket Program.

Donations of non-perishable food items
and new, unwrapped children's toys
can be dropped off at the
Municipal Administration Building,
7 Milne Street, in the main foyer
from now until December 15, 2015.

For more information on the program,
please call 705-489-2431



Honoured by the OPP

Minden's Michael Barnes was given the Friends of the OPP Museum Heritage Award recognizing the efforts of writers and researchers who work to broaden understanding of police. Barnes has written several books concerning the OPP including *Dedication to Duty*, *Policing Ontario* and *Someone to Watch Over You*. Barnes was named honorary inspector in the OPP in 1991 and received the Order of Canada in 1994. Photo by Bobb Barratt

Christmas bird count will take place Dec. 19

The local count circle is the standard 15 miles across, extending from Kinmount in the south, west to Bob Lake, to Mountain Lake in the north and east to Irondale, Gelert, Lochlin and Ingoldsby. It was selected to include the most open water in the Gull River and Burnt River systems.

While it hasn't seemed very wintery for much of this fall, the Christmas bird count season is fast approaching. During the period from Dec. 14 to Jan. 5 each year, thousands of people join in counting birds in their neighbourhoods across North America and beyond. This time of year is chosen because migration is largely over and birds are mostly settled in places where they will spend the winter. It's felt that this is the best time to get an accurate count of bird numbers.

Of course some types of birds move more in response to changing weather than seasons, especially as it relates to snow cover and the freezing over of lakes and rivers. Others movement is tied more directly to the availability of food. In years when there's an abundance of prey species such as lemmings and voles in the high arctic or the boreal forest, raptors such as snowy and great gray owls often remain on their breeding territories all winter. When the populations of prey species crash, large numbers of raptors are forced to move south in search of food. Last winter saw a movement of snowy owls into southern Ontario. Already this year snowy owls are showing up in the south. These birds seem to be mostly adults, suggesting that there is a severe lack of food in their home territories, perhaps so serious that many failed to raise young during the past summer.

Finches such as crossbills and pine siskins that rely on tree seeds for winter food will travel across the continent in search of a bumper crop of cones. If they find abundant food, they may nest in mid-winter. I recall being on an Algonquin Christmas count several years ago when male white-winged crossbills started to sing as the sun rose. It was just before New Years. The temperature was minus 30°C.

This year's wild food crop in Haliburton isn't huge, but there are many cones on balsam firs. This tends to encourage red-breasted nuthatches to stay, as well as some purple finches. Seeds on birches and cedars attract goldfinches, pine siskins and redpolls. Filling your feeders with sunflower seeds and Niger may encourage some of them to come for a snack. It's even possible a flock of evening grosbeaks could stop by. If you're really lucky, a pine grosbeak might appear. Of course chickadees, nuthatches and blue jays will be visiting too.

This year's fruit crop was excellent on trees such as mountain ash, flowering crab and wild apple. This may tempt an occasional robin to hang around, or perhaps even a brown thrasher, gray catbird or hermit thrush.

Millet and cracked corn scattered on the ground will attract juncos and mourning doves. The lack of snow and cold through much of the fall may have encouraged some white-throated and song sparrows to linger. Watch for any bird that looks different from the norm. Tree sparrows and cardinals show up at first light, and at dusk. Loud cardinal chip note given at dusk may reveal a bird you didn't know was hanging around your

neighbourhood.

Gray jay numbers have declined dramatically over the past decade. Anyone who lives near a boggy area with tamaracks and dense evergreens should hang up some suet to try to attract this elusive visitor. The eastern, southern and northwestern portions of the circle have the best gray jay habitat, but one could show up at any well-stocked suet feeder.

I hope you're getting excited about counting your birds on Dec. 19 and adding them to the many millions of other winged wonders discovered across the Americas. The more eyes and ears are focused on birds on count day, the more individuals and varieties of birds we'll find. Your efforts really do make an enormous difference.

Call to join us on Dec. 19 but, if you can't, let us know what birds are at your feeders and around your neighbourhood so they're included in this year's totals. How many chickadees are visiting your yard is perhaps more important to the overall results than the presence of less common birds. So don't think because you see only three birds on Dec. 19, your results aren't important.

And if you're going shopping, notice what birds you see along your route. If you're going for a walk, keep track of the birds along the way.

While the count is still a ways away, the long range forecast doesn't predict a severe freeze in the next couple of weeks, so waterfowl, gulls and eagles may stay around in larger numbers than usual. Don't forget to report any you see on nearby lakes and rivers, or just flying over.

Contact Ed, Thom or Dennis for more information, or to join a group on Dec. 19.

To report birds at your feeder, phone 286-1189 between 5 and 7 p.m. on Dec. 19, or phone Ed or Thom on December 20. Or you can e-mail your results to Dennis or mail them to Dennis Barry, 338 Crystal Beach Blvd. Whitby, ON L1N 9Z7. Species not seen by anyone on Dec. 19, but found on Dec. 16, 17, 18, 20, 21 or 22 will be recorded as Count Week birds. Numbers of individuals are not recorded for birds seen on any day except Dec. 19. We just want to know, for example, that, while no one saw a robin anywhere in the count circle on Dec. 19, you saw one in your crab apple tree on Dec. 17.

Thom Lambert 457-9110 singing.dog@sympatico.ca

Ed Poropat 457-3018 ed.barb@sympatico.ca

Dennis Barry 905-725-2116 dbarry@interlinks.net

Submitted by Dennis Barry

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Winning week for Peewee A Storm

Peewee A Storm twice defeats Bears

Last Friday night the South Muskoka Bears visited the JoAnne Sharpley's Source for Sports Highland Storm peewee A team. The storm scored right away with a net drive by Joe Boice from Aaron Bellefleur.

The combatants traded chances, but it was the storm who added another tally, five minutes later by Dylan Keefer, helpers from Boice and Nick Phippen. The second period started with the storm up two to nothing.

Beast of a Power forward, Keefer added another goal with a short-handed maker, from two-way forward, Phippen. Although shorthanded, the Storm were able to add to their lead with a nice goal by speedy forward, Hunter Winder, who drove to the net hard all night capturing the attention of the crowd. After only a few seconds back at even strength, team captain Alex Little sent a laser beam through traffic and through the goalie, to put the Storm up by five, second-year peewees Brenden Newhook and Cole Prentice got the helpers. Prentice put this already "out-of-reach-game" further so, by putting the final nail in the coffin with the sixth goal. The Storm outshot the Bears 41-19 and when asked about the game, head coach Richie Mills said that the boys did what they had to do for the most part, getting the puck deep, fore-checked well, keeping the Bears chances to the outside, and capitalized on their own scoring chances.

On Saturday evening the team travelled to Parry Sound to face the Shamrocks, with the visitors coming away with a 7-0 victory. The first period produced only one goal, Aaron Bellefleur, a dependable defenceman with "dirty dangles" capitalized on an opportunity, from Aiden Neave and Joe Bioce. Seven minutes into the second Joe Boice scored and goal and three minutes after that added another to extend the lead to three. The third started with a bang, when Neave put one past the shamrock goalie who was seeing lots of rubber all night, assist from Hunter Winder. The third period was taken over by team captain and points machine Alex Little, when he scored the next three goals recording the natural hat trick in the final frame.

Their third game in as many nights, the boys faced South Muskoka in a quick rematch to Friday night's 6-0 thumping. Unlike the last meeting the Bears kept the intensity up as it became obvious that they might have been embarrassed last game. The Bears' goalie faced 38 shots for the game, which was a low number considering what was directed at his net. Hunter Winder, who had a monster of a weekend, had the only goal of the game and Darian Maddock recorded his third consecutive shutout in the win.

Submitted by Trevor Maddock

Midget A Storm wins 4-1 against Ice Devils

The well-rested Dollo's Foodland and Smolen's Dentistry Highland Storm Midget A team took to the ice against the Almaguin Ice Devils in Minden on Sunday afternoon after inclement weather cancelled their game Friday night.

The first period had the home side carrying the play with many fine chances but unable to capitalize and the first ended knotted at nil. The second was a more even affair with both goalies standing tall and the Ice Devils opening the scoring with just over six minutes left, on a power play goal, but the Highlanders came on in a fury with Jaydon Wood scoring the equalizer two minutes later and Owen Patterson-Smith tallying the go ahead goal, quickly after that, leaving the second period with the Highlanders ahead 2-1. Haliburton came out flying in the third, tallied two more, another each by Wood and Patterson-Smith, coupled with the a great defensive effort and rock solid goaltending of Ethan Howe, the home team finished it 4-1 for their second consecutive victory.

This weekend the team is off to Pembroke for the Silver Stick Tournament where they look to build on their winning ways!

Submitted by Katie and Dave Howe

Hawks come out ahead in Silver Stick

The Walker's and Heating Haliburton Health Team Highland Storm Peewee AE's were the host team this past weekend for the International Silver Stick Regional Hockey Tournament in Minden.

Game one was bright and early Saturday morning against league rival Huntsville Otters. The Otters have had the Storm's number for much of the season but that didn't deter our team as Tim Turner scored early in the first period. The game was very fast paced with end to end action and great saves by both goaltenders. The teams exchanged goals frequently with neither holding more than a one goal lead at any time. The game ended 4-4 with Kolby McGovern and Tyler Martin with a pair scoring the other Storm goals.

In game two, the Storm played the Stirling Blues. The game remained scoreless throughout most of the first period with much of the action taking place in the Blue's end as the Storm frequently buzzed around looking for that first goal. The Storm finally broke through near the end of the first period when Sam Hoenow scored on a beautiful wrist shot. The Storm clung onto that one goal lead for most of the game and came close time and time again looking for the insurance marker. With only four minutes to go the Stirling team was given the opportunity to go on the power play and finally beat stellar goaltender Nathan Miscio. Unfortunately for the Storm, the Blue's scored another goal about a minute later handing the Highland Storm a heart breaking 2-1 loss.

In the third game of the tournament the Storm took on the undefeated Tweed Hawks. The Hawks scored within the first two minutes and then popped in another three before the game was even five minutes old. The Storm caught a lucky break when Brendan Coumbs scored on a shot from the neutral zone. Coumbs scored again early in the second period on the power play to make things interesting at 4-2. Tweed however never slowed down and by the end of the middle frame had restored their four goal cushion, 6-2. The Storm high point of the game was Coumbs getting the hat trick with a power play goal in the final period. The Tweed Hawks went on to take a convincing 8-3 win to remain undefeated in the opening round and eliminating the Storm from the tournament.

Upcoming this weekend the Peewee AE's will travel to Gravenhurst on both Saturday and Sunday to resume league play against the South Muskoka Bears.

Submitted by Gord Hoenow

Tykes take down Bears

The Tom Prentice and Sons / RM Carpentry Highland Storm Tyke team were in action on Saturday, November 28 facing off against Tweed in Wilberforce. Their first meeting this season was a battle from start to finish so this game was set to be no different. Tweed came out strong and dominated play early taking a 3-0 lead into the second period. The Storm battled back with a goal by Josh Scheffee in the second period and a goal by Brady Burtch in the third, but were unable to fend off the strong offensive charge of Tweed. Strong goaltending by Chase Winder kept the score within reach. The Storm lost their first game of the season 6-2.

The Tom Prentice and Sons/RM Carpentry Highland Storm Tyke team travelled to Bracebridge on Sunday, Nov. 29 to play their seventh game of the season against the South Muskoka Bears. The Storm were first to light up the scoreboard and with a solid team effort they managed to keep the number of scoring chances for the Bears to a minimum. Goals

for the Storm were scored by Brady Burtch, Connor Byrne, Brechin Johnston and Jace Mills. The Storm net minder, Chase Winder, made some incredible saves to seal the victory 7-3. The team is in action next Saturday at the Woodville Tyke tournament and at home on Sunday where they will face the Muskoka Rock for the first time this season. The puck drops at 1 p.m. in Haliburton.

By Janice Scheffee

Bantam A battles Thunder Kings

The Pepper Mill Highand Storm Bantam A team travelled to Pembroke to participated in the Regional Silver Stick tournament, which promotes citizenship and international goodwill. The first game was played Friday, Nov. 27 and against the Mississippi Thunder Kings. The Storm was completely overpowered period after period.

Although, they fought back hard, they suffered a 5-0 loss. The next day, they met the North Dundas Demons.

The teams were closely matched and provided some awesome end-to-end action. The Demons got on the scoreboard first, late in the second period. The Storm worked hard to produce a goal but it was the Demons that got another one, late in the third. With just over a minute left in the game, the Storm pulled their goalie and put out the extra player. That, along with sheer determination got the Storm team their first goal. The action was intense in the Demon's end. Noah Black took a shot from the point during a fierce battle in front of the net. Lucas Haedicke picked up the rebound and found the opening.

Ending the game 2-1. Later on that day, the Storm team met with the Baltimore Ice Dogs. It was an entertaining game of back and forth action, with a multitude of scoring opportunities for the Storm. The Storm team did everything but score, which caused the frustration to grow. Finally, with minutes left in the third, Shawn Walker took a shot from the point. Lucas Haedicke picked up the rebound, took a laser shot passed the goalie and secured the win.

Join us Friday night at 8 p.m. in Minden when the Storm Bantam A team will meet the Huntsville Otters.

By Suzanne Haedicke



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DORSET NEWS

Melissa Alfano

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A big thank you goes out to all the helpers and sponsors of the community Christmas tree lighting and meet and greet dinner event that took place on Sunday, November 29. A good crowd decorated the pavilion at the old Dorset school park and it looks wonderfully festive. About 75 people turned out for the official tree lighting, bonfire and carol singing. Thanks to Susan Cassie and friends for leading the singing.

There were close to 100 people at the dinner at the rec centre after the tree lighting. A wonderful time was had by all and Santa stopped in for a visit with gifts for all the kids.



The free Christmas shopping table was a big hit for the kids and adults alike. Thank you to all the generous community members who donated to the table. Any items that weren't "purchased" have gone to the community dinner taking place this week in Baysville.

The Dorset tree lighting event was started back in 1994 and the official tree lighter has been organized all those years by Kerry Lock. It's always a surprise for the community who the lighter will be. Here is a list of the people who turned on the lights and ignited the Dorset Christmas spirit; 1994 Phyllis Briscoe, 1995 Irene Clayton, 1996 Don Lillow, 1997 Lenly Barry, 1998 Rosaleen Davies, 1999 Jean Greenaway, 2000 Marcella MacKay, 2001 Joyce McKey, 2002 Olga Cunningham, 2003 Millie McEachern, 2004 Mary Fitzgibbon, 2005 Lorne Greenaway (son Paul on his behalf), 2006 Lorraine Weatherell, 2007 Brad Robinson, 2008 Ted Sage, 2009 Norman MacKay, 2010 Roy MacKay, 2011 Mildred and Ken Everest, 2012 Ted Morris, 2013 Ruth and John McLennan, 2014 Ross Rabjohn and this year, 2015 the official lighter was Marlene Shortreed.

Marlene first came to Dorset in May of 1961 with husband Don and children. Before they left home to come to Dorset, Marlene hosted a birthday party for one of the kids and they were all wearing shorts and t-shirts. On the day they arrived

they had a heavy snowfall! Marlene remembers thinking "What have I gotten myself into?!" Don had dreamed of moving the family to the Slave Lake area and Dorset was the compromise especially after all that snow in May! This was a lucky choice for the people of Dorset as through the years Marlene has donated many hours to the community. Marlene worked on the Dorset Community Policing Committee for 21 years, with Community Care for 16 years and for many years on the recreation committee for the Tall Pines Snowmobile Club. Thank you Marlene!

There are a few spots left for the "Christmas Cookie Dough Party" taking place on Thursday, December 10 from 2 to 4 p.m. at the Dorset rec centre. This is a get together to make refrigerator cookie dough for taking home to bake. Participants will be making orange sable dough, brown sugar shortbread dough and chocolate espresso dough. There will be recipe handouts that include ideas for different shapes and variations using the above 3 doughs that will make your Christmas cookie tray a sight to behold! Space is limited to 10 people, first come first serve and payment is due in advance to secure your spot. All materials are supplied and the cost is \$25 per person.

Mark your calendar for December 12. Dorset Knox United church on Harvey Avenue will be having a tea from 2 to 4 p.m. They will be selling pies, butter tarts and other goodies.

Birthday wishes for this coming week go out to Gina Baum. Happy Birthday Gina! If you have items or birthdays for the Dorset News, please send them along to malfano@hotmail.ca or give me a call at 705-766-0076.



Notice



Surplus Equipment for Sale

Sealed bids will be received at the Township Office until 3:00 p.m. on December 15, 2015.

1. 2006 GMC Sierra 1500 4x4 Regular Cab

Note: THE SAID VEHICLE WILL BE SOLD "AS IS, WHERE IS" UNCERTIFIED AND SUBJECT TO HST.

Bid forms are available on the Township website at www.algonquinhighlands.ca and at the Township Office located at the address below, 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday to Friday.

The vehicle may be inspected at the Township Office from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. on Monday, December 14, 2015.

For further information please contact:

Mike Thomas, CRS-I
Operations Manager
Township of Algonquin Highlands
1123 North Shore Rd.,
Algonquin Highlands, ON K0M 1J1
Tel: 705-489-2379
Email: mthomas@algonquinhighlands.ca

The highest or any bid not necessarily accepted.



Township of Algonquin Highlands

NOTICE

Fees and Charges

Pursuant to By-Law 07-46

NOTICE is hereby provided that the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Algonquin Highlands intends to consider amending Comprehensive Fees and Charges By-Law 2015-39 at its regular meeting to be held on

Thursday, December 10, 2015

The meeting will be held at the Municipal Council Chambers, 1123 North Shore Rd.

Angie Bird, A.M.C.T., CMM III
Chief Administrative Officer/Clerk
Township of Algonquin Highlands
1123 North Shore Rd.
Algonquin Highlands, ON K0M 1J1
T: 705-489-2379 Ext. 222
E: abird@algonquinhighlands.ca

Events



Highland Wood Christmas Bazaar!

Saturday December 5th 10:00am-1:00pm.

Highland Wood Long Term Care's Activity Room,
Attached to the Hospital, 7199 Gelert Road, Haliburton

Thank you to Christmas craft and bake sale volunteers



Legion br. 636

A big thank you to all the Volunteers who helped run our annual Christmas Craft and Legion Bake Sale and those who baked Christmas goodies for our Bake table. That must have been a big hit because everything was cleared out! There were 14 vendors all set up with their wares, but we were disappointed that the crowds weren't as large as in previous years. I am hoping that the vendors made some profit, so they will return next year.

Thank you all for your continuing donations to fill our Turkey Bucks jar; they'll be put to good use. Early bird membership renewal campaign is now closed. The winner of the 2017 free membership will be drawn at the President's Levee on Jan. 1, 2016.

By the time you read this, our popular monthly \$75 Dinner for Two gift certificate for November at Mill Pond in Carnarvon, will have been announced. So unless you won, you'll have to wait til next week to read the winner's name! A new raffle has already been started for certificate at a different restaurant. This month's draw will take place Thursday Dec 31. What a way to start the New Year! Drop into the Branch and purchase your ticket(s) at \$2 each or 3 for \$5.

The monthly Sunday Big Euchre is coming up Dec 6. Everyone welcome: noon, 12 games of cards and a lunch for just \$12. There will be no Tuesday Art Group during December and Ladies Darts on Wednesdays

is cancelled during December and January.

The Youth Remembrance competitions have concluded, and all First Place finishers have advanced to compete against 50 other branches in our District. A date for presentation of the certificates and the monetary awards will be arranged soon.

Black and white poster, junior first Aidan Laporte, second Cheyenne Legace, third Quinn Hie. Intermediate first Chantell Paradie, second Krystin Hope, third Stella Buwalda.

Colour Posters Primary first Dominick Hiltz-Dewey, second Mackenzie McMartin-Lawr, third Violet Humphries. Junior first Zita Suranyi, second Baylie Stover, third Austin Boylan. Intermediate first Jordanna Mavor, second Caitlyn Farrow, third Brooklin Spence.

Poetry Junior first Grace Hudson, second Colleen Petric. Intermediate first Dakota Mahler second Jasmine Jawanda

There will be a Christmas Special Meat Draw coming up 16 December starting at noon. To get you in the festive spirit we will also be featuring turkey for the lunch special. Four hams and four turkeys will be drawn, with the price of tickets at the same low price of just \$1 each. Try your luck and stretch your Christmas dinner budget with eight tickets and eight chances for every draw.

Minden Legion is happy to announce that Highlands Trio will be coming to entertain everyone at our Branch Dec. 19 from 4 to 7 p.m. Come early and get a good seat and listen to an energetic assortment of Country, Bluegrass, Rock and Roll, Folk and Down East music. Bring your appetite too, as there will be food available.

Events

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NIGHTS

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WOMAN IN GOLD

Drama Starring Helen Mirren and Ryan Reynolds

An elderly Jewish refugee fights to reclaim Gustav Klimt's iconic painting of her aunt, Portrait of Adele Bloch-Bauer I, which was stolen by the Nazis.

Thursday December 10th 4:15 7:15

\$10 at the door

Save the date for Doc(k) Day: April 9, 2016

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COMMITTEE OF ADJUSTMENT - NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING Application For Minor Variance

Take Notice that the Committee of Adjustment of the Township of Minden Hills will hold a public hearing on:

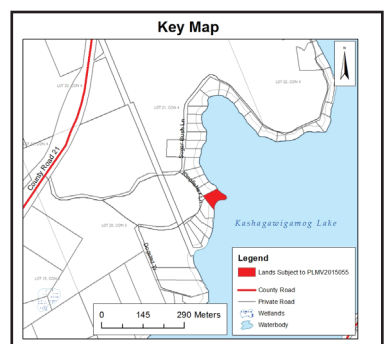
DATE: Monday, December 14, 2015
TIME: 9:30 a.m.
LOCATION: Municipal Council Chambers
 7 Milne Street, Minden, Ontario.

to consider minor variance applications **PLMV2015055**, **PLMV2015056**, and **PLMV2015057**. The purpose of the public hearing will be to consider the proposed Minor Variances to the Township of Minden Hills Zoning By-law No. 06-10 pursuant to Section 45 of the Planning Act, R.S.O. 1990, Chpt. P. 13, as amended. The minor variance applications being considered are listed below:

PLMV2015055 (Revised Application) - Part of Lot 21, Concession 4, Geographic Township of Minden, being Lot 1 of Registered Plan 463, and Part 1 of Reference Plan 19R-9087; municipally known as 1023 King Fisher Lane; and being located on Kashagawigamog Lake.

Purpose and Effect of the Application: To permit the reconstruction, and reconfiguration, of a legal non-conforming use (oversized sleeping cabin), together with an addition to the non-complying dwelling and deck which are located within 15 m. (49'6") of the High Water Mark. The variance would allow the dwelling to encroach an additional 0.6m. (2') towards the water for a proposed setback of 8.2 m. (27'), whereas the deck addition would maintain the existing 6.4m. (21') setback.

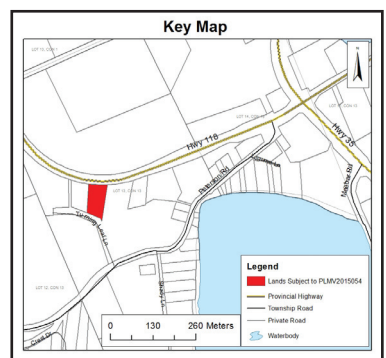
The applicant seeks relief from Section 4.7.2 of the Zoning By-law to permit the reconstruction of the oversized sleeping cabin, and from Section 4.7.4(ii) to permit its relocation within the required interior side yard setback. And further, from Section 4.7.4(ii) & (iv) to permit a 42% increase (44.6m² [480 sq.ft.]) to the existing 107m² (1,152 sq.ft.) dwelling and its further encroachment of 0.6 m. (2') towards the High Water Mark; and a 14% increase (6.7m² [72 sq.ft.]) to the existing 48.5m² (522 sq.ft.) deck.



PLMV2015056 - Part of Lot 24, Concession 3, Geographic Township of Minden, and being Part 1 of Reference Plan 19R-2978; municipally known as 1005 Fernwood Trail.

Purpose and Effect of the Application: To permit the construction of a new dwelling within the required interior side yard setback.

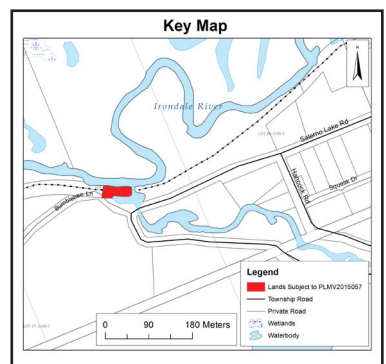
The applicant seeks relief from Section 5.2 of the Zoning By-law to permit an interior side yard of 4.9m. (16'2") along the east property line, whereas 15m. (49'3") is allowed.



PLMV2015057 - Part of Lot 5, Concession 28, Geographic Township of Snowdon; municipally known as 1014 Bumblebee Lane; and located on the Irondale River.

Purpose and Effect of the Application: To permit the expansion of the existing, undersized, dwelling which is located within 15m. (49'3") from the High Water Mark to extend over the existing deck.

The applicant seeks relief from Section 4.7.4(ii) of the Zoning By-law to permit a 13% increase (4m² [44 sq.ft.]) to the existing 31.9m² (343 sq.ft.) non-complying dwelling whereas no increase is permitted.



HAVE YOUR SAY: Input on the above noted applications are welcome and encouraged. You can provide input by speaking at the public meeting or by making a written submission to the Township. If you do not attend the public meeting, it may proceed in your absence and, except as otherwise provided in The Planning Act, you will not be entitled to any further notice in the proceedings.

WRITTEN SUBMISSION: To provide input in writing, or to request written notice of the decision, please contact the undersigned or e-mail iclendening@mindenhill.ca. If you do not make a written submission prior to a decision, nor make an oral submission at the Public Hearing, and subsequently submit an appeal of the decision, the Ontario Municipal Board may dismiss the appeal.

MORE INFORMATION: Additional information regarding these applications will be available for public inspection until noon on the day of the hearing at the Township of Minden Hills Building and Planning Department during normal office hours, and online at www.mindenhill.ca.

DATED this 3rd day of December, 2015

Ian Clendening, MPL.
 Secretary-Treasurer
 Committee of Adjustment



Dollo's Master Mens Bonspiel held at the Minden Curling Club

The 12th annual Dollo's Master Mens Invitational Bonspiel was held at the Minden Curling Club on Tuesday November 24/15. The sixteen teams that were competing came from a total of five different Ontario curling clubs this year including Minden Curling Club. The all day spiel included a delicious lunch for the players. The Bonspiel is sponsored by the local Minden Dollo's Foodland who also supplied the excellent meat prizes which were awarded to the first four winning teams in each draw. The overall winning team and recipient of the Dollo trophy was a team from the Minden Curling Club skipped by Mike Clewlow with Scotty Boyd as vice, Doug Hall as second and Tony Taylor at lead. Photo submitted by Jim Gillanders

No hypothermia at Farmhouse

AROUND THE TOWN

Patti Fleury

705-488-2938 brucefleury1@hotmail.com

Here at the old farmhouse a new propane furnace has been installed under the original section. Now a trip to the bathroom or the evening passthrough enroute to the bedroom staircase can be safely achieved without fear of hypothermia setting in. Son David returning tomorrow from a Viking River Cruise will no longer be able to utter his unprintable epitaph when paying a call. If the outhouse were still available it might be his preferred choice. Speaking of outhouses son Graeme has been busy winterising his to prevent the unwelcome tenants some three "tarantulas" according to grandson Ben from getting back in. Although an avid naturalist and fearless hockey player Ben is definitely not a spider fan.

It's hard to believe that December has arrived but with it come many activities for the whole family as part of the annual "Christmas in the Village" celebration. Be sure to bundle up warmly then head out to the Christmas Tree Lighting on Thursday, December 3rd in the Kinmount Railroad Station yards starting at 6:30 p.m. There will be carolling, a bonfire, treats and free photos with Santa. Saturday, December 5th begins with a free Breakfast with Santa hosted by the Kinmount & District Lions Club from 8:30 to 11 a.m. at St. James Anglican Church on Crego Street. At the Community Centre the Kinmount Farmer's Market will welcome visitors to its Christmas Open House from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Exchange holiday greetings with your favourite vendors and enter a 50/50 draw and Gift Basket Draw. plus the first 25 people arriving will receive a KFM Twoonie. In the upper level over the main Hall there will be Christmas activities for children from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. complete with hot chocolate and cookies. Why not write a letter to Santa and deliver it personally when meeting him at the Post Office at 2 p.m. then follow him up to the Legion Branch 441 Kinmount for a free family lunch and a gift for children 10 years and under. The "Kinny the Elf Hunt" takes place from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. at 10 locations around town with an instant prize at each plus a special prize/draw at the Kinmount Artisans Marketplace.

For a festive evening after that full Santa Day the K.C.P.E.D. will host "Christmas Music Night" at the fully

accessible Galway Hall featuring Celtic music with the Fitz family, a Christmas theme Loonie Auction plus homemade desserts. This event begins at 7 p.m. with tickets \$15 available by calling Diane at 705-488-2635. To learn more about this talented musical family from Bancroft visit their website everythingfitz.ca.

The Kinmount & District Lions Club have set up their "Angel Trees" at various locations around town waiting for donations of non-perishable food and gifts for children which will be gathered by the Club and included in its Christmas baskets. Please plan to assist if you can.

There will be a Christmas Craft & Bake Sale on Sunday, December 6th from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Legion Branch 441 Kinmount. There will be a variety of vendors on hand and Celtic psychic & medium Anya Gorman will be providing individual 30 minute readings at a cost of \$30 which should be pre-booked by calling 705-488-3191. On Friday, December 11th it's a special Christmas Bingo with turkeys, hams, cash prizes and a \$500 Must Go Jackpot. If you can please bring along a non-perishable item for the Food Bank. There will not be Big Bucks Bid Euchre this month with the next scheduled for Wednesday, January 20th.

This month's Book Sale by the Friends of the Kinmount Library will be held on Saturday, December 19th from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. on the lower level of the Branch. A book is a wonderful gift for all ages on your Christmas list and Mary Ann our librarian would be a great resource to help in choosing. Watching our favourite soap "The Young & The Restless" this past week we immediately recognised Sage's choice when reading to young Faith. It was from "Anne of Green Gables" by Canadian authour Lucy Maud Montgomery always a timeless classic.

Clarence the sixteen year old indoor cat is sulking upstairs because we have decided after several years of travelling to the G.T.A. to stay home for Christmas. In preparation Bruce bought a new Christmas tree which now stands in front of Clarence's usual perch at the ground level windows in the living room blocking his view over the dooryard. Brought in as part of a litter of wild barn kittens to be euthanized he was rescued by the young vet and named by her after the angel in the Christmas classic "It's a Wonderful Life". Hopefully Clarence can be charmed back into a better mood with our secret weapon tuna fish. Until next week keep busy and well but try to stay off Santa's naughty list...

County card scores

by Patti Fleury ~ 488-2938
~ brucefleury1@hotmail.com

Nov. 23 contract bridge at Stanhope: At 5,730 Ross Fletcher led the high scores followed by Muriel McIntosh 5,380, Sandy McKay 5,150 and Ross Davies 4,430. The Lucky Loonie went to Carol Bowker while Paul Pethick teamed up with Sandy McKay for a Small Slam.

Nov. 24 contract bridge at Minden United Church: Nancy Ballantyne reports that Don Ballantyne was first at 4,500 then Gerald Bergin 4,430 and Mary Davis 4,020. There were two Small Slams over the morning one by Don Ballantyne and Anu Lelep and a second by Mary Davis partnered with Eleanor Hall.

Nov. 24 Mixed Shuffleboard at Stanhope Firehall: With a score of 254 over 6 ends Blanche Carr and Diane Platt were in first place then Dorene Elstone and Anne Manning 244. Third spot went to Irene Murphy and John Platt 243 while the afternoon's low of 52 was posted by Larry Murphy partnered with Jean Randell.

Nov. 24 Minden Seniors bid euchre at Minden Legion: Leading ladies were Bev Johnson 341, Theresa Deak 309, Marcy Morgan 299 and James Bastedo 254. First for the gents at 243 was Jesse Barlow followed by Ron Morrison 246, Archie Ross 260 and Bruce Medcalf 258. Sharron Atkinson won the major draw while Bruce Medcalf, Jesse Barlow and our reporter Tom Grix claimed the smaller prizes. Sharron also took a moonshot along with Shirley Milne, Bev Johnson, Ida Young and Albert Foster.

Nov. 24 euchre at Lochlin Community Centre: Lone hand honours went to Jim MacPherson with Shirley Davis high lady and our reporter Nancy McPherson low, Tops for the gents was Harold Harvie with Ed McDowell low man and Shirley Davis winning the special prize.

Nov. 25 duplicate bridge at Parklane, Haliburton: Playing Howell Reet Murray and Ev Morgan were first at 64 percent then Muriel McIntosh partnered with Diana Spicer 60 percent and Irena and Alek Zworski 54 percent.

Nov. 26 euchre at Minden Legion: Lone hand honours went to Bev Alexander and James Bastedo with our interim reporter Muriel McIntosh and Tom Bagshaw posting the high scores. The evening's lows went to Elaine Smith and Kaye Bull while Tom Orr, Clara Miscio, Allen Ari and Doug McIntosh took home the other prizes.

Nov. 26 bid euchre at Minden Community Centre: Leading ladies were Betty Wagar 275, our reporter Bev Johnson 274, Sharron Atkinson 266 and at 264 Vi Howell. First for the gents at 333 was Albert Foster followed by Jesse Barlow 286, Garth Windsor 282 and Kevin Maloney 272. Bruce Medcalf won for both the card draw and the hidden score with Anne Manning taking the call 1. There were five moonshots going to Garth Windsor, Albert Foster, Vi Howell, Betty Wagar and Bev Johnson.

Nov. 27 duplicate bridge at Echo Hills, Haliburton: Playing Howell Irene and Alek Zworski led at 60 percent then Tom and our bridge reporter Margo Davidson 58 percent, Peter O'Connor and Paul Pethick 57 percent and Ross Fletcher partnered with Helen Baker 56 percent.

Nov. 27 euchre at Staunworth Court, Minden: Shirley Howe reports that James Bastedo won for high hands, Lillian Mann for lone hands, Nick Bokestyn for low hands and Sherin Brown for the special prize.

Nov. 30 euchre at St. Paul's Friendship Club, Minden: Most lone hand honours went to Lyn Preston and Elaine Smith with Pearl Cowen and Gord Stickwood posting the high scores. The afternoon's low was claimed by Betty Sharpe while Mary Trumbull held the hidden score. Tim Sharpe further reports that Elaine Smith won the special prize but then also shared with Lil Mann a visit by the skunk.

Nov. 30 Kinmount Seniors bid euchre at Kinmount Legion: The high scoring trio members were Dana Briscoe 330, our reporter Rose Isaacson 311 and Dorothy McElwain 294. Vic Ballik won the draw while Dana Briscoe, Jesse Barlow and Rose /Isaacson [3] took the moonshots. Please note that Rose reminds there will not be Big Bucks Bid Euchre during the month of December.

Nov. 30 euchre at Staunworth Terrace, Minden: Winning for high hands was Shirley Howe, for lone hands and the special prize Jean Randell then tied for low hands Peter O'Reilly and Elaine Smith. Thanks to Sherin Brown for this news.

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**2014 - 2015
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www.tlidsb.ca/about-us/financial-statements

Copies of this document are also available
by contacting:

Susan Kirkpatrick
300 County Road 36, Box 420,
Lindsay, ON K9V 4S4
888.526.5552 ext. 22164

Larry Hope
Director of Education

Louise Clodd
Chair of the Board

620 NOTICES

THE TOWNSHIP OF MINDEN HILLS IN SEASON, EVERY SEASON

NOTICE OF ADOPTION OF OFFICIAL PLAN AMENDMENT NOTICE OF PASSING OF ZONING BY-LAW AMENDMENT

PART OF LOTS 4 & 5, CONCESSION 'A', GEOGRAPHIC TOWNSHIP OF MINDEN

TAKE NOTICE THAT the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Minden Hills enacted By-law No. 15-164, which adopted Official Plan Amendment No. 10, in accordance with the provisions of Section 17 of the *Planning Act*, R.S.O. 1990, c. P.13 and, enacted Zoning By-law Amendment No. 15-163 under Section 34 of the *Planning Act*, R.S.O. 1990, c. P.13 on November 26, 2015 with respect to the lands shown on Key Map "A" below (being the subject lands). The Official Plan Amendment is being forwarded to the County of Haliburton for approval.

The purpose of Official Plan Amendment No. 10 (OPA 10) is to redesignate approximately 1 ha of land located in Part Lots 4 and 5, Concession A (Minden) from the Parks and Open Space designation to the Residential designation.

The purpose and effect of Zoning By-law Amendment No. 15-163 is to rezone the subject lands from the Community Facility (CF) Zone to the Residential Type Two Exception (C2-12) Zone. The zoning amendment will permit the lands to be used for a two-phase multi-residential housing development in partnership with the Kawartha Lakes Haliburton Housing Corporation.

OFFICIAL PLAN AMENDMENT:

Take Notice that any person or public body will be entitled to receive notice of the decision of the approval authority if a written request to be notified of the decision (including the person's or public body's address) is made to the approval authority, being the County of Haliburton, P.O. Box 399, 11 Newcastle St. Minden, ON K0M 2K0. A notice of the proposed decision from the County of Haliburton will set out the requirements and last date for filing a notice of appeal of the Official Plan Amendment.

ZONING BY-LAW AMENDMENT:

Take Notice that any person or agency may appeal to the Ontario Municipal Board in respect of the Zoning By-law Amendment by first obtaining a prescribed Appellant Form and filing same with the Clerk of the Corporation of the Township of Minden Hills not later than December 21, 2015, and completing said Form setting out the objection(s) of the Zoning By-law (s) and the reasons in support of the objection(s), together with the required \$125 fee for each appeal made payable to the Minister of Finance.

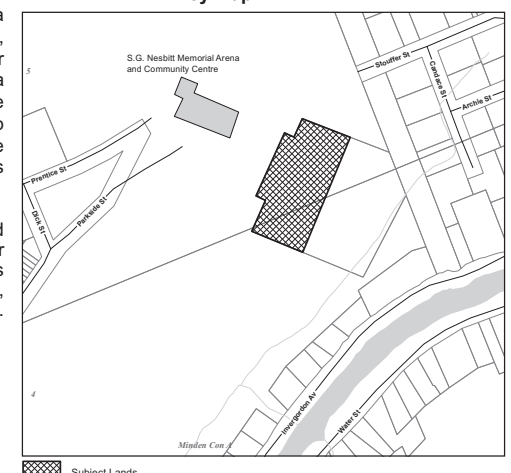
And Take Notice that only individuals, corporations and public bodies may appeal a by-law to the Ontario Municipal Board. A notice of appeal may not be filed by an unincorporated association or group. However, a notice of appeal may be filed in the name of an individual who is a member of the association or the group on its behalf.

No person or public body shall be added as a party to the hearing of the appeal unless, before the by-law was passed, the person or public body made oral submissions to a public meeting or written submissions to the council or, in the opinion of the Ontario Municipal Board, there are reasonable grounds to add the person or public body as a party.

A copy of the Official Plan Amendment and Zoning By-law Amendment are available for inspection at the Township of Minden Hills Municipal Office located at 7 Milne Street, between the hours of 8:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. Monday to Friday.

Dated this 30th day of November, 2015
Dawn Newhook – Clerk
Township of Minden Hills

Key Map "A"



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650 OBITUARIES



In Loving Memory of Ruby J. Henderson

Passed away peacefully at Telfer Place in Paris on Monday, November 23, 2015. In her 92nd year.

Beloved wife of the late Austen. Dear mother of Paul and his wife Jennifer of Lagoon City, Garth (deceased) and his wife Joanne of Halifax, Gae and her husband Terry of Burford. Loving grandmother of Jill, Julie, Angela, Jeff and great grandmother of Ava, Lila, Faith, Hayden, Garrett, Erik and Amanda.

Dear sister of Marie (deceased). Fondly remembered by her family and friends.

Friends are invited to visit the family at the Gordon A. Monk Funeral Home Ltd., 127 Bobcaygeon Rd., P.O. Box 427, Minden K0M 2K0 on Friday, November 27, 2015 from 11:00 am until the time of the Service to Celebrate Ruby's Life at 1:00 pm. Interment at Kinmount Cemetery.

Memorial Donations to the Alzheimer's Society or to the Charity of your choice would be appreciated by the family.



www.gordonmonkfuneralhome.com



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Dagmar Boettcher**
489-9968



Janice Brookes*
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Haliburton Lake \$569,000



- Outstanding, one of a kind lakefront home or summer getaway.
- Featuring hardwood floors, stone fireplace, 4 plus bedrooms
- 2 full bathrooms, large solarium, full unfinished basement and a double attached garage
- Lakeside patio allows hours of waterfront enjoyment.

Drew Bishop 457-2128 x 23


Maple Lake \$320,000



- Yr round 3 bdrm home or cottage with garage
- Fully winterized on partially finished basement
- Drilled well and propane fireplace and flat lot
- North Shore Rd between you and dock at lake

Dagmar Boettcher 457-5968

Prime Haliburton in town Lot \$70,000



- Fronts on Riverside and backs on Dean Crt
- On Municipal Road with Hydro pole on roadside
- Well treed/good frontage/.88 acre lot
- BUILD YOUR DREAM HOME!!

Janice Brookes 457-2128 x 22


Haliburton Lakefront Classic! \$599,000



- Charming 3200 sq ft home; 3BR; 2 bath
- 170' ftg on Grass Lake; 5 Lake chain
- Beautifully landscaped; Western exposure; Large decks
- Ideal for a large family or entertaining

Kim Butt 286-2138 x 31


Kennis Lake Road, West Guilford-Commercial \$124,900



- 244.86 ft frontage and 184 ft deep approx
- Kennis Lk RD—West Guilford.Hwy Commercial
- Well, Hydro, Had septic approval (expired)
- Level easy to build on

Gloria Carnochan 754-1932

Downtown Haliburton Opportunity \$249,500



- 13 Ft Rd Frontage, .01 Acres
- 1,325 Sq Ft, 2 levels and basement
- Municipal sewer and drilled well
- Perfect main street exposure

Mark Dennys 457-2128 x 30

Affordable Retirement Living, Only \$87,000



- New listing in Hunter Creek Estates
- Quiet street, 2 bedrooms 1.5 baths
- Spacious living room, beautiful gardens
- Central air conditioning, excellent value

Tom Ecclestone 286-2138 x 26

\$329,000.00 – 2.5 acres

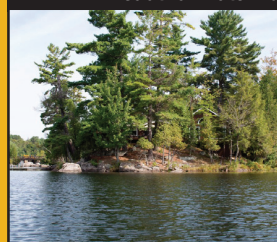


- Eloquent Algonquin 4 season Home
- Dock on Kushog Lake with excellent swimming
- 1400 sq.ft. living space, 3 bdrms, 2 bathrooms
- Fantastic lakeview
- Taxes only \$2061.00

Lee Gauthier 754-1482

NEW WATERFRONT LISTING

Beautiful Waterfront Home \$439,000



- High end home in stunning setting on Drag River
- Great swimming, deep water off the dock, miles of kayaking
- Lots of room for guests with three bedrooms & a bunkie
- Custom kitchen, large open living area, Lots of upgrades!

Andrew Hodgson 286-2138 x 29

Miskwabi Lake \$479,900



- Year-round home/cottage
- 3 bedrooms plus den
- Big lake western view, clean shoreline
- Awesome 2-lake headwater chain

Susanne James & Andy Mosher 457-2128 x 33

Horseshoe Lake Rd \$69,000



- Gorgeous 5.5 ac lot beautifully treed
- Overlooking Horseshoe Lake
- Driveway is in and hydro at the road
- Public beach and lake access
- Call Denise

Denise LeBlanc 286-2138 x 23

8 Acres \$39,900



- Township road
- Driveway in
- New small cabin on property
- Private & quiet

David Lee 286-2138 x 27

Eagle Lake Home \$229,900



- Recently built Guildcrest Home
- Close to Sir Sam's Ski & Bike
- Over 2 acres, private lot
- 3 bedrooms, 2 baths, jacuzzi tub

Erin Nicholls 457-2128 x 34

'Turn Key' on Sparrow Lake \$567,900



- 3 Winterized cottages on Sparrow Lake in Gravenhurst
- Great investment or family compound property
- Everything has been updated beautifully
- Includes beautiful dock with lake-side patio and fantastic swimming

Brandon Nimigon 457-2128 x 27


Sand, Sun, Sunsets \$339,900



- 1.89 acres with 140 feet of sand shoreline on Grace Lake plus 2 lake chain boating
- Private location with clean water swimming, Lake Trout fishing & Sun all day
- Perfect sand castle building site, hydro at lot line and snowmobile trails nearby!

Karen Nimigon 457-2128 x 29

Southern Exposure on Mountain Lake \$799,000



- Lots of room for the family with 4 bdrms & 2 full bath
- Open concept main living area & a fantastic view of the lake
- 3 season screened room is next to the DR plus large LR w/woodstove insert
- WO bsmt with massive fam rm, Plus att dbl car garage (insulated and heated)

Greg Stamp 457-2128 x 28

Sensational Soyers Lake! \$599,000



- 125 feet frontage, southern exposure
- Private and natural lot, mature trees
- Contemporary open concept cottage
- 4 bedrooms, 2 baths, stone fireplace

Kim Stamp 457-2128 x 24

Sunnyside Hilltop Lot \$68,500



- Scenic hilltop views over Haliburton Village
- Multi-exposure 1.5 acre residential lot
- Private setting in area of finer homes
- Well-maintained Township road – a "Must-Buy!"

Elizabeth Thompson 457-2128 x 52

Little Bob Lake \$139,000

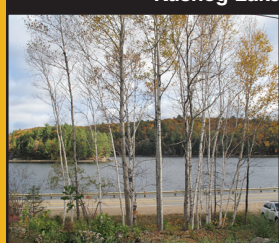


- Looking for a lot to build on....
- Close to Minden and 2 Hours from GTA
- Year Round Access, Hydro & Phone @ Lot Line
- Gentle Slope from Road to Water

Melanie Vigrass 286-2138 x 32

NEW PRICE

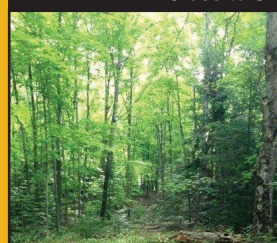
Kushog Lake View \$75,000



- Year round access between Minden and Dorset
- Easy access to snowmobile trails
- Gorgeous view across Kushog Lake
- Driveway in and partially cleared, ready to build!

Tom Wilkinson 286-2138 x 25

Close to Ski Hill \$34,500



- Building lot in Eagle Lake Area
- 1.37 acres with frontage on 2 municipal roads
- Easy access with services at lot line
- Public beach, shopping & restaurants nearby

Andrea Wilson 457-2128 x 25



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Kim Stamp**
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